

# **About The Air Pollution Control Program**

he mission of DNR's Air Pollution Control Program is "to maintain purity of the air resources of the state to protect the health, general welfare and physical property of the people, maximum employment and the full industrial development of the state." The program serves the public with technology, planning, enforcement, permitting, financial and information services to achieve this mission.

## TECHNICAL SUPPORT

The staff analyzes the quality of Missouri air using chemistry, meteorology, mathematics and computer programming. Staff members research the sources and effects of air pollution, collecting and maintaining an annual inventory of sources that emit air pollution. In conjunction with the DNR's **Environmental Services Program and** four local agencies, the staff designs and coordinates an air-monitoring network and analyzes monitoring data. The network provides air quality data from more than 40 locations around the state. Using the monitoring data and other data on source emissions and the weather, the staff runs computer models of the atmosphere to predict air quality.

### **PLANNING**

The program develops rules designed to protect Missouri's air quality while encouraging economic development. Public participation is a vital part of the cooperative process of developing guidelines and regulations. Staff work with businesses, federal, state and local government agencies, environmental groups and the public in a number of ways including

exchanging ideas and information on clean air issues with advisory groups, workgroups and in workshops.

The program works closely with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as part of the national effort to improve air quality through the Clean Air Act. Staff members research and analyze complex environmental issues to develop air pollution control strategies that will ensure Missouri's progress in achieving and maintaining air quality improvements. These air pollution control strategies are included in state implementation plans to control specific pollutants. The Missouri Air Conservation Commission (MACC) (see p. 24) approves the state implementation plans and rule actions after they have gone through a public hearing process. Once rules are adopted by MACC, they become effective through publication in the Missouri State Code. State implementation plans and associated rules adopted by the MACC are submitted to EPA for inclusion in the federally approved state plan.

#### **PERMITS**

Engineers review construction permit applications of new and modified emission sources to ensure that facilities minimize the release of air contaminants and will meet all the requirements of the law and regulations. Operating permit applications, similar to business licenses, are also received and reviewed. Operating permits identify all the air pollution control requirements of a source of air pollution. This makes it clear to sources and citizens what is expected.

# **ENFORCEMENT**

The program responds to complaints about air quality and helps businesses comply with various federal, state and local rules. The staff conduct routine site inspections and oversee the testing of smoke stacks, asbestos removal, gasoline vapor recovery equipment and other sources of air pollution through regional offices. When a source violates an air quality requirement, staff work with the facility to correct the problem and may take additional action, including the assessment of penalties necessary to obtain compliance.

### **ADMINISTRATION**

The staff provide budgeting, procurement, public information and personnel services. Staff also provide liaisons for the Missouri Air Conservation Commission, the Environmental Protection Agency, the Missouri Department of Health, local air agencies in Kansas City, St. Louis, St. Louis County and Springfield, the American Lung Association and the news media.

### **REVENUES**

The Air Pollution Control Program receives funds from three sources: general tax revenue approved by the Missouri General Assembly, federal funds from EPA and fees collected by the program. Fee revenues come from several sources. The program collects four types of fees. Since 1984, the state has collected a fee to test the emissions of 1.2 million motor vehicles in the city of St. Louis and in Jefferson, St. Charles and St. Louis counties. Since 1993, the program has collected an emission fee from air contaminant sources under the Missouri Air Conservation Law. Since 1989, the program has collected fees

to ensure the safe removal of asbestos, a cancer-causing mineral once used to insulate buildings. Funds received by the Air Pollution Control Program are shown in the table and charts below.

# LOCAL AGENCIES

Four governments in Missouri practice local control over air pollution: Kansas City, St. Louis, St. Louis County and Springfield. A city or county may have its own air agency under two conditions. The city must be able to enforce its rules and its rules must be as strict as the state's. Local agencies issue permits, maintain monitoring networks and may enforce asbestos-removal laws. The local agencies are partially funded by the Environmental Protection Agency through the Department of Natural Resources.

1998 Revenue by Source			
General Revenue	Federal	Fees	Total
\$721,315	\$2,217,000	\$6,982,000	\$9,920,315



